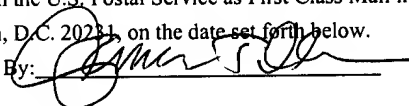




IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Duff et al.	Group Art Unit: 1655
Serial No.: 09/037,472	Examiner: Myers, C.
Filing Date: March 10, 1998	Attorney Docket No.: MSA-008.01
For: <i>Detecting Genetic Predisposition to Sight-Threatening Diabetic Retinopathy</i>	

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Certificate of First Class Mailing	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date set forth below.	
April 11, 2001	By: 
Date of Signature and Mail Deposit	

PETITION FOR THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

Applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension of time, from January 11, 2001 up to and including April 11, 2001, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) for filing a response to the Office Action dated October 11, 2000 in the above-identified application.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$445.00 for this extension fee. The Commissioner is authorized to charge and underpayments, or credit any overpayments, to our Deposit Account No. 06-1448.

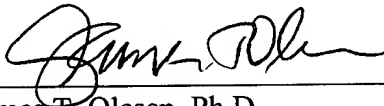
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Dated: April 11, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
James T. Olesen, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 46,967
Agent for Applicants